



# National FFA Organization

A National Student Organization Chartered by Congress as an Integral Part of Instruction in Agricultural Education and Headquartered at the U.S. Department of Education in Washington, D.C.

## **The FFA Mission**

FFA makes a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for **premier leadership, personal growth and career success** through agricultural education.

## National FFA Center

6060 FFA Drive  
P.O. Box 68960  
Indianapolis, IN 46268-0960  
Phone: 317-802-6060  
Fax: 317-802-6061  
[www.ffa.org](http://www.ffa.org)

May 7, 2002

Kathy Altman, Director, Value Added Business and Marketing  
USDA Block Grants for Specialty Crops and Promotion of Agriculture  
Office of the Commissioner of Agriculture  
1st A Center, Suite 414  
150 West Market Street  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

Dear Ms. Altman:

As a former FFA member and current National FFA Organization employee, I have come to appreciate the support and enthusiasm from the businessmen and women with whom we work on a daily basis. One of my tasks as project coordinator of the national FFA convention is to seek out Kentucky and Indiana agribusinesses that can provide educational tours for the nearly 47,000 members who attend the four-day event. As part of a new initiative that will help kick-off our 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration, we are identifying specific sites as part of the Career Success Tour Series. Montgomery Farms has agreed to assist us in the development of this new program.

In an effort to offer activities that reflect the three components of the FFA mission statement (*premier leadership, personal growth, career success*), National FFA is identifying agribusinesses that offer value-added tours through increased interaction via handouts, activities and discussions about the business and the operator's daily activities. Montgomery Farms has indicated their intention of doing just that by providing free seminars to convention attendees for the duration of the national FFA convention. Our hope is that students who attend tours in the Career Success Tour Series will return to their home chapters with working knowledge of an agribusiness that can be applied in their classroom, entrepreneurial activities and supervised agricultural experiences. We foresee students and advisors building relationships with these businesses, relationships that will add value to a chapter's activities throughout the year.

We anticipate a terrific response to this tour series and plan to continue the program for future conventions. In 2006, the national FFA convention will move from Louisville, Kentucky to Indianapolis, Indiana. In spite of the move, Montgomery Farms will continue to be a part of the Career Success Tour Series because of their ideal location in Southern Indiana. Chapters will have the opportunity to visit during their trips to and from the 2006-2012 national FFA conventions.

Montgomery Farms' commitment to youth education, agriculture and community service mirror that of FFA. We are pleased to share this relationship with them.

Sincerely,

Katie Dallam  
Project Coordinator, Education Division



## One Mission: Student Success

75th National FFA Convention

October 30 - November 2, 2002

November 22, 2002

Mr. Dallas Montgomery  
Montgomery Farms  
1122 Radio Tower Road  
Underwood, IN 47144

Dear Mr. Montgomery:

On behalf of the National FFA Organization, we would like to say thank you for providing tours to our FFA members, advisors and guests during the 75th National FFA Convention. Because of your efforts we are able to continue making national convention a positive experience for the young people of the National FFA Organization.

Kentucky has been the home of the national FFA convention for the past four years. The response of the Louisville and Indiana communities has always been remarkable. The warm welcome and hospitality has truly been felt by the welcoming billboards, business tours, hotels and restaurants and through the generosity of the many sponsors, host committee volunteers, businesses, and organizations who are committed to making a pleasant convention experience for those who attend.

Another successful national FFA convention has been completed and plans for next year will soon be underway. We thought you might enjoy the following key facts about the 75th National FFA Convention. We had record-breaking attendance with 51,025 students, teachers and guests registered during the event. More than 3,100 students participated in 23 career development events and 2,556 members received the American FFA Degree. This is the highest degree, which can be bestowed upon an FFA member. Five hundred fifty local chapters were recognized as National Chapter Award winners. There were 196 finalists who participated in 49 national proficiency award areas and ten (10) national winners in Agri-Entrepreneurship. Nearly 500 Louisville elementary students participated in the PALS (Partners in Active Learning Support) mentoring program. More than 300 attended the School Officials Luncheon designed to highlight agricultural education programs recognizing teachers and school officials who help build strong programs. These are just a few of the highlights. There were many more activities and functions, which played an important part in the success of convention.



**Premier Leadership . Personal Growth . Career Success**

National FFA Organization, 6060 FFA Drive, P.O. Box 68960, Indianapolis, IN 46268-0960  
P: 317-802-6060 . F: 317-802-6061 . [www.ffa.org](http://www.ffa.org)

Montgomery Farms  
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November 22, 2002

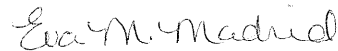
One of the vital links to our convention success is the Career Success and Educational tours, which you provide. Our members and guests were able to venture out and explore the various sites of Kentucky and Indiana. Thank you for your gracious hospitality and for providing such amazing and educational tours. Our FFA members, advisors and guests truly enjoyed their tour experience and we hope you did as well.

It would not be possible for FFA to offer these amazing educational opportunities and events without people like yourself offering valuable assistance. More importantly, thank you for your support of agricultural education and FFA, as well as making a difference in the lives of students. It has truly been a pleasure working with you and we look forward to the positive impact your partnership will help to make next year's convention even better.

Sincerely,



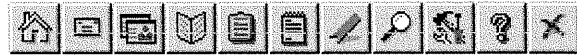
Katie Dallam  
Convention Manager  
National FFA Organization



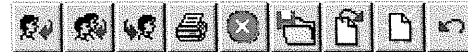
Eva M. Madrid  
Local Program Success Intern  
National FFA Organization

developmentz.com

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[27] [28 of 31] [29]

Date: Tuesday, November 5 2002 01:28 pm

From: Dallam, Katie &lt;KDallam@ffa.org&gt;

To: "Dallas Montgomery (E-mail)" &lt;info@montgomery-farms.com&gt;

CC: "Madrid, Eva" &lt;EMadrid@ffa.org&gt;

Reply-To: "Dallam, Katie" &lt;KDallam@ffa.org&gt;

Subject: Response to Career Success Tours

Full Headers: [Display Headers](#)Attachments: Part 1 [noname](#) (TEXT/PLAIN 7bit 1058 bytes) [Hide](#)Part 2 [noname](#) (TEXT/HTML quoted-printable 3540 bytes) [View](#)

Dallas -

Wanted to pass on the first comment I've received regarding the tour at Montgomery Farms. Great job! Hope all went well.

Katie

"We took the Montgomery Farms tour, not certain whom to thank, but wanted to offer commendations on the event. This was a true opportunity for students to experience for themselves a true entrepreneur. We arrived at 9 for the tour and somehow stayed for nearly 4 hours without realizing it. This was no doubt one of the finest tours I have ever taken students on in my 34 years of teaching. Need to keep this one on the list."

Katie Dallam  
Convention Management  
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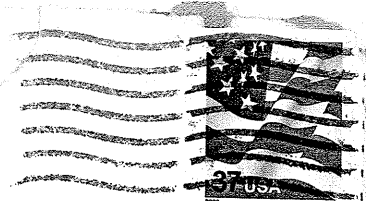
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The FFA Mission

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developmentz.com Web Mail system

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14354 170th St  
Letts, IA 52554



*Janie  
Ellen*

Montgomery Farms  
Dallas Montgomery  
1122 Radio Tower Bld.  
Underwood, IN 47177

*Cynthia  
Morgan*

*Heather Christensen*

*Stephanie  
Bashner*

*Mr. Manu*

*Okidi  
Elder*

Dear Mr. Montgomery -

Thank you for sharing information about your agro-entertainment business. We all thought it was a really fun and interesting tour. You helped us learn about running a business and how to keep customers happy. It was interesting to hear about the development of the corn mazes and how popular they are. It was very of you to take us around on the haunted hayride despite how muddy it was. Also thank you for letting us fire corn cobs at Osama Bin Laden & Saddam Hussein. It made us feel like we were helping our country by shooting even though we rarely hit them. Thanks again,

Louisiana-Muscataine National FFA Convention Attendees